

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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UNCLAS GENEVA 3324

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG

SUBJ: COMPUTER USAGE AND INFORMATION SERVICES IN THE UN SYSTEM

REF: GENEVA A-319

1. MISOFF DISCUSSED ICC PROBLEMS WITH LARRY SLAUGHTER, UN DIRECTOR FOR EDP AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS, WHO WAS IN GENEVA FOR MEETING OF IOB AND OF STATISTICAL COMMISSION. SLAUGHTER OPTIMISTIC THAT PROPOSAL BEFORE LATTER BODY FOR TRANSFER OF STATISTICS INCLUDING TRADE STATISTICS TO NEW YORK WOULD BE APPROVED AND IMPLEMENTED OVER THE NEXT YEAR.
2. SLAUGHTER REFERRED TO PROPOSAL TO TRANSFER ICC FROM WHO BUILDING TO NEW ILO BUILDING AND STATED HIS OPPOSITION THERETO. HE MAINTAINED THAT MOVE AND NEW INSTALLATION WOULD COST MORE THAN \$1.0 MILLION AND THAT UN WOULD NOT AGREE TO SHARE THE COST OF SUCH MOVE.
3. HE ALSO REPORTED THAT ACABQ HAD TAKEN A VERY HARD LINE WITH U/SYG DAVIDSON ON COSTS OF ICC AND TOOK STRONG STAND IN FAVOR OF REDUCTION OF ICC COMPUTER FROM 370/155 TO A 370-145 (SAME SIZE AS COMPUTER IN NEW YORK) WHICH WOULD RESULT IN SAVINGS OF \$400,000 PER ANNUM.
4. SLAUGHTER NOTED THAT RENTAL COST OF CURRENT ICC COMPUTER WAS UNCLASSIFIED
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IN NEIGHBORHOOD OF 60 TO 70 THOUSAND DOLLARS PER MONTH
AND INCREASING IN LIGHT DOLLAR DEVALUATION. TAKING INTO ACCOUNT

225 HOURS OPERATION PER MONTH, MEANT THAT HOURLY COST APPROXIMATED \$300 TO \$400. UN COMPUTER IN NEW YORK, ON THE OTHER HAND, RENTED FOR \$30,000 PER MONTH AND AT 300 HOURS WAS COSTING ABOUT \$100 PER HOUR. RECENTLY ICC HAD PROPOSED EVEN LARGER COMPUTER (EUP-158) WHICH IT WAS CLAIMED COULD BE RENTED FOR \$20,000 LESS PER ANNUM THAN CURRENT MACHINE. ALTHOUGH EVEN SUCH MINOR SAVINGS WOULD BE DESIRABLE, SLAUGHTER IS CONVINCED THAT IT WOULD BE MUCH PREFERABLE TO REDUCE TO 370-145 WITH CONSEQUENT SAVING OF \$400,000 AND GREATLY REDUCED HOURLY COST OF OPERATION. HE NOTED THAT SHOULD MCKAY, (ICC DIRECTOR), HIMSELF PROPOSE SUCH A REDUCTION HE WOULD GAIN GREAT CREDIBILITY, SAVE MONEY AND BE IN STRONG POSITION TO GET A LARGER COMPUTER SHOULD THE ICC VOLUME EVER SO WARRANT.

5. SLAUGHTER WELCOMED THE IN DEPTH STUDY TO BE MADE BY IOB AND SAID THAT CURRENT PLANS CALLED FOR ITS COMPLETION IN DRAFT BY THE SECRETARIAT BY OCTOBER 1973 IN TIME FOR IOB REVIEW IN THAT MONTH. MISSOFF SHOWED SLAUGHTER DRAFT GUIDELINES FOR IOB CONTAINED IN REF AIRGRAM. SLAUGHTER CONCURRED IN GUIDELINES AND REQUESTED A COPY FOR MORE DETAILED COMMENT. IN ADDITION TO CONCENTRATING ON MANAGEMENT INFORMATION IT WAS HIS OPINION THAT IOB STUDY COULD EXAMINE OTHER APPLICATIONS AS WELL.BASSIN

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